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Warwick Man Sentenced on Assault Charges

FARGO - United States Attorney Timothy Q. Purdon announced that on September 20, 2010, **Earland Rebel McKay** of Warwick, North Dakota, was sentenced before United States District Court Judge Ralph R. Erickson on charges of assault by striking, beating, or wounding and assault with a dangerous weapon.

McKay, 31, pleaded guilty on June 14, 2010, to assaulting Tylin Slaughter, Jr., and fracturing his neck. In December of 2009, during a house party, McKay punched Slaughter and knocked him down to the ground. McKay, who was wearing football spikes, then stomped on Slaughter's face and neck.

In a separate incident in March of 2010, during an argument over the payment of a five-dollar debt, McKay held a knife to the throat of Matthew Ironshield and then stabbed Ironshield in the shoulder. Ironshield had previously borrowed five dollars from McKay and when McKay asked for the money, Ironshield said that he did not have it. Both incidents occurred on the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation.

Judge Erickson sentenced McKay to a total of seven years' imprisonment to be followed by three years of supervised release. McKay was ordered to pay a \$200 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund. A restitution hearing will be set at a later date.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney Janice M. Morley prosecuted the case.